* TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 1895. WASHINGTON OFFICE-1410 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

Telephone Calls.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. DAILY BY MAIL.

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THE INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL Can be found at the following places— PARIS—American Exchange in Paris, 36 Boulevard de NEW YORK-Gilsey House, Windsor Hotel and Astor PHILADELPHIA-A. P. Kemble, cor. Lancaster ave. and Baring st. CHICAGO—Palmer House, Auditorium Hotel and P. O. Neys Co., 81 Adams street.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.—Riggs House, Ebbitt House, Willard's Hotel and the Washington News Exchange, 14th street, bet. Penn. ave. and F street. Herr Bismarck was no April fool if

If silver should go on advancing until Its bullion value should nearly equal that of gold in the ratio of 16 to 1 the cheap-money advocates would be dis-

he did come into the world on April 1.

It is not a bad omen that the leading Republican papers in Chicago urge Republican voters to defeat a half dozen Republican candidates for the Council because they are boodlers.

Col. S. G. McLendon, an old-time Democrat in Georgia, says there must be two parties in that State because there are two opinions regarding the tariff and the money question, and that hereafter men like himself will stand up and vote with the North when they think that the North is right. It is hoped that the Georgian is a prophet.

Never did a man in private life receive so general and so genuine an ovamarck yesterday. All Germany seemed to pay homage to the greatest statesman of Europe, not because all of them are in sympathy with his opinions, but because he conceived and carried out the plan of fusing the German states into the German nation.

Less than - year ago Senator Voorhees predicted that the price of wool, three months after the passage of the Democratic tariff bill, would be higher than it was under the McKinley law. At this time the price continues a third less. As the Senator is likely to do his usual amount of predicting this season his attention is called to the fact that he has not the gift of prophecy.

Chicago and St. Louis have municipal elections to-day, and to-morrow the annual State election in Rhode Island will be held. The Democrats carried the State in 1889, 1890, 1891 and 1893, but in presidential years the Republicans have carried it. In 1889 the Democratic plurality was 4,419, but in 1894 the Republican lead was 6,307. There has been no interest in the canvass this year.

In appointing the eighteen members of the several boards of control for the benevolent institutions all at one time, as he proposes to do, Governor Matthews is evidently animated by the desperate determination to have all the "kicking" come at once, instead of having it distributed over a long period, as it would be under a series of appointments. He has not been in office this long without having learned that the filling of so many places involves a deal of dissatisfaction among the other

A correspondent in a recent letter asks if labor has advanced in this country since the coinage of silver ceased to be free. The writer is an intelligent man, but he has devoted his energies to acquiring misinformation regarding the money question to the exclusion of accurate information. Have wages advanced since 1873? Yes, both in this country and Germany. In this country the advance was steady until the election of 1892. In the exhaustive investigation made by the Bureau of Labor at Washington for the Senate finance committee in 1892, it appears that, making the amount of all wages 100 in 1860, they gradually advanced to 160.7 on a simple average, and to 168.6 on an average based upon the importance of the employment. The average in 1873, according to the importance of the employment, was 147.4. That is, to 1892 there was an increase

The Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Knightstown has nearly one hundred applications for admission which cannot be granted. At the same time there are unofficial reports to the effect that children are admitted who are not orphans and whose surviving parent and relatives can care for them if they make the same efforts as thousands of par- bullion in the gold dollar, but it was recognition of the honest differences of not? And this, again: "There are some ents are compelled to make to support and rear their children at home. The Journal is not prepared to say whether | ing the two metals into legal-tender these reports are false or true; but they money the ratio was on the basis of are so frequently heard that there is the equality of value of one ounce of warrant for calling attention to them. The law designed the institution as an | United States the ratio was one ounce orphans' home, not a home for children with one parent or even with no parents who should be cared for by relatives. The fact that the home affords better opportunities and an easier life for children than parents or friends can provide is no reason for thrusting them upon the State for maintenance and education. Furthermore, it is much better for the children in after life to be brought up in private homes, where they must work for a living in part, than to be maintained in comparative idleness by public charity, and then, at certain ages, be turned into the world to care for themselves. The reports show that but a limited number comthe whole are taught useful sustaining the opinion that with an inpared with the whole are taught useful

admitted from time to time who are not really orphans and whose relatives are able to care for them?

THE DRIFT CITYWARD.

calls attention to the fact that while the four States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, representing the richest and best-watered region of the United States, and surpassing, area for area, any other part of the Union in general productiveness, scarcely held their own in rural and village population during the decade which ended with 1890. Of the 994 townships in Indiana 496 gained population between 1880 and 1890, 482 lost and sixteen held their own, and yet the increase of population in the whole State was 214,000, or 10.8 per cent. In Illinois 800 townships lost and 579 gained inhabitants. In Ohio the preponderance of the townships losing population is about the same as in Illinois. In Iowa 893 townships gained and 691 lost population during the decade. In Indiana the townships losing population are scattered through the northern, southeastern and central portions of the State.

To several causes can this loss of population be attributed. A decrease in the value of farm lands is not one of them in the States named, because, during the decade, the value of such property increased \$119,000,000 in this State, \$253,000,000 in Illinois, \$290,000,000 in Iowa and \$1,940,000,000 in the North Central States. The main cause of the falling off of farm population is found in the introduction of labor-saving machinery. Improvements reducing the demand for human efforts on the farms have exceeded the inventions in all other departments of production. There is scarcely any part of farm work which has not been facilitated by inventions the past ten or fifteen years. The population thus displaced must go to the

Even more striking is the loss of pop-

ulation in what are called the villages.

While producing millions' worth of goods in 1890 in excess of 1880, there was a decided falling off in the number of plants. The same fact appears in comparing the statistics of 1870 with 1890. Thousands more men and women were employed in the industries of Indiana in 1890 than in 1880, but the increase has been in the larger cities. This is because what is known as the factory system has come with its large plants, its costly machinery, its division of labor and its vastly increased capacity to turn out goods. The carriage manufacturer who employed twenty hands in scores of villages is no more. The machinery, the organized production and the cheaper goods of the large city establishment have driven these worthy people out of the business. The plant turning out a thousand carriages a year can thrive on one-tenth of the profit of those turning out but a hundred a year. The same is true of grist mills and furniture making. The extensive plants have forced the smaller ones with limited machinery to the wall. The larger places, having superior facilities, have been benefited, but the beautiful smaller towns, of which there are hundreds in Indiana, have lost population and business by the factory system which competition has built up. No man can build a carriage now, but a hundred men, with machinery, each doing a part, can turn out a much better and a much

TRUE BIMETALLISM.

Gen. Francis A. Walker, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the author of one of the most instructive works on money that has ever been published in this country, is, beyond question, the best-informed and one of the ablest of the advocates of real bimetallism in the world. In a recent address on this subject before the Worcester, Mass., Board of Trade, Gen. Walker considered some of the objections to bimetallism. In reply to the oft-repeated assumption that the values of the two metals vary so much from a time to time that a ratio for their coinage, in which the coins of equal face value shall have the same bullion value, is not possible, General Walker said:

To illustrate the closeness with which gold To illustrate the closeness with which gold and silver were held to the ratio, let me say that in 1867 the mean annual rate at which the two metals exchanged, by weight, was 15.57 ounces of silver to one ounce of gold; in 1888 it became 15.60; in 1869 it remained at 15.60; in 1870 it was 15.58; in 1871, again, 15.58; in 2.2, 15.62. Here we have a range of only six in over 1500, in the gold price of silver and the silver price of gold during six years; and on this range one-half, three points, was first covered in one-half, three points, was first covered in 1872, on the very verge and in plain view of silver demonetization. During the five pre-ceding years the range had been only three in over 1500—one in more than 500, less than one-fifth of 1 per cent. A remarkably close approximation. But it may be said, "Oh, well, that may be so, but it was during a time when there was no strong tendency time when there was no strong tendency to a divergence between gold and silver, and hence the law was able to produce the small effect required in keeping them together." Those who speak after this fashion show themselves wonderfully ignorant of the history of the precious metals. The changes in the relative production of the y greater and more violent than those which have taken place since. Some of our volunteer statisticians are fond of reading out, with much emphasis, figures which the great volume of silver pro during the past twenty years; and they atment and furious plunges which silver has taken downward since the bimetallist the was broken. But let me tell these gen-tlemen that the changes in the production tlemen that the changes in the production of the precious metals since 1873 have been trivial compared with those prior to that date. In 1809 \$3 worth of silver was being produced annually for every dollar's worth of gold. In 1853, only 27 cents' worth of silver was being produced for a dollar's worth of gold, a change of almost eleventwelfths of the whole. What has been the yield of the Colorado and Nevada mines, compared with this?

ompared with this? During fifty years prior to 1873 the bullion in an American silver dollar was worth more in the market than the countries in Europe then using and coingold to 1514 ounces of silver. In the of gold to 16 ounces of silver. That is, our silver dollar contained 412.5 grains, and the equivalent silver coin in double-standard countries in Europe contained 399.6 grains. In other words, our silver dollar was worth the value of nearly fourteen grains of standard silver more than the equivalent coin in Europe. For that reason no silver dollars of any consequence were coined in this country while our ratio was 16 to 1, for the reason that such a dollar was worth more than a dollar in | They are in danger of becoming a political Europe. But in spite of the different ratios the price of silver was not materially affected and the two metals fluctuated but slightly for many years,

THE DAILY JOURNAL any considerable number of children of both metals there would be little or with other intelligent advertisers. They no fluctuation in the bullion value of dollars or their equivalents.

General Walker, however, is a genuine bimetallist, and for that reason is opposed to the adoption of the free coinage of silver in the United States alone. An article in the Forum for April He favors and loses no opportunity to advocate genuine bimetallism. He is opposed to gold monometallism, and still more opposed to silver monometallism, which free coinage means.

After ten years in Congress, during which he did not a thing for the benefit of his district, Mr. Bynum is practically political mendicant. He has been imploring the President for this office and that, evidently convinced that it is the first duty of the government to take care of him. The latest position he is eported to be seeking is a place on the New York board of general appraisers of imported merchandise. There is no vacancy, but Mr. Tichenor, one of the most experienced experts in the appraisal of merchandise in the country, is seriously ill, and Mr. Bynum has laid claim to his position. The duties of the appraisers require them to be well informed as to the values and qualities of merchandise, and familiar with the customs laws and decisions. Mr. Bynum has none of these qualifications, but these things seem not to count with him. He must have a living as a place holder. It is his profession. Fitness or antitude for official duties is of no consequence. The efficlency of the customs service does not count. Mr. Bynum belongs to the officeholding profession, and it is the first duty of the government to furnish him a place. True, no man less deserves such recognition, but even that does

The book called "Coin's Financial School" is one of the most impudent frauds ever put off upon the public. The author represents that his book is made up of lectures delivered in Chicago which were attended by leading bankers and business men, among whom was Lyman J. Gage. Such men are represented as putting questions to the author and being either converted or silenced by Coin's answers. Mr. Crane, of Little Sioux, Ia., wrote to Mr. Gage about the matter and got the following

In reply to your inquiry of March 6, re-lating to the so-called "Coin's Financial lating to the so-called Com's I have seen say that the author is a School," I have to say that the author is a young man to local fame unknown. The lectures, as represented in the book, never took place. The men named in the book and quoted as having been present and taking part in the discussion were never there. In fact, they could not be, for there were no lectures given. It is an ingenious invention, and has imposed on very many people, especially in the West.

In England the statistics of the Society

of Friends show that the death rate slightly exceeds the birth rate in that organization, thus showing a steady decrease n the membership. The Fhiladelphia Press makes what it considers the alarming discovery that there is even a greater decrease of the birth rate among the Quakers in this country, but declares that a similar state of things exists in other classes of society of the same moral and virtuous churches of Philadelphia, it says, "Whether Protestant Episcopal, Presbyterian, Methodist or Baptist, the baptisms are few by the side of the funerals, and the deaths undoubtedly considerably exceed In this city, taken at births are fully 10,000 more numerous than the deaths; but in the Eighth ward (presumably an aristocratic and church-going ward) the deaths are twice as numerous in most years as the births." Perhaps this condition of affairs does not indicate the 'national danger" the Press fears. The fact that younger members of Quaker nouseholds have a way of drifting off into other churches may go far to explain the phenomenon in case of that sect. There is also a disposition, unfortunate, possibly, but nevertheless in force, among the descendants of generations of church-goers not to unite formally with any religious society. Whatever moral degeneracy this may indicate, it does not imply physical inferiority, and deterioration of the race is not necessarily to be inferred. Church statistics are apt to be misleading, and in spite of them the race seems to the unprejudiced observer to keep up its average of merit.

Miss Ahern, whose term of office as State Librarian expired yesterday, retires with the good wishes of all the ratrons of the library. She has been found courteous and efficient, and in her six years of service as assistant and chief, successively, has developed a fitness for the work which makes her retirement a matter for regret. The new incumbent will doubtless be equally efficient should she serve an equal length of time, but no library should be put into inexperienced hands, and all persons who are interested in the proper care and building up of this important State institution lament the custom that has, in the past, made it a political football. Thanks to a Republican Legislature, this has been changed, and henceforth this appointment will rest with the State Board of Education, and the professional qualifications of the applicants are likely to be the only test. When that is done the State library will assume its proper importance and usefulness, will cease to be a mere collection of books and will become a harmonious structure such as skilled control and unity of management alone can give it. Meanwhile, the public will welcome the coming and speed the parting official with equal good will to both.

Inquirer: No, it does not follow from the remarks of Rev. Mr. Mackintosh as reported in yesterday's Journal that he would not engage in the work of municipal reform a la Parkhurst if occasion seemed to require, What he said related to the church and politics, and not to individuals and polities. Parkhurst, it must be remembered, undertook his reform labors as a citizen and not as a minister. Mr. Mackintosh, it may be remembered, shows admirable catholicity of spirit and a very level head in his one class cannot be forced to regulate its behavior in accordance with the views of another class, however correct the latter may seem to be.

The anniversary edition of the Lebanon Pioneer is a credit alike to the enterprise of the publisher and the public spirit of the business men of that city, who made such an issue possible.

A bicyclist in bloomers wheeled up to the pells in Cleveland yesterday to deposit her ballot, and the Cleveland male voters rolled their eyes plously to the sky-after taking a good look at the trousers-and felt that they had indeed seen the new woman,

The annual reappearance in the newspapers of Jeff Davis's celebrated petticoats is more exciting than usual this season.

It is said that the theatrical managers in New York have abandoned the flaming bill-board poster in salvertising, as the test

have learned that few people notice the poster, and that the "dodger" which is thrust into their hands or pockets on the street or left at their doors to be blown away has come to be regarded as a nui-

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Mother's Futile Plaint. "Mother, may I go out to wheel?" "Yes, my darling daughter; I suppose, of course, you won't wear skirts, Although I think you'd oughter."

A Blame Mean Trick. "It was des disaway," explained Rastus. done had it in fer dat little nigger man some time, an' I des been layin' fer de time w'en I could ketch him widout no razzer, kase he's a bad man wid a razzer, an' dat ain't no lie. Sa'tdy, I meets him on de blg road wiv a riddle in his han'. 'Look heah, Sam,' says I right nice, 'kin you len' me yo' razzer? 'I ain't got no razzer,' says he. 'Sho?' says I. 'Sho,' says he. 'Den,' says I, 'yo time am came. I'se gwine to beat yo twell yo hide comes loose." 'Doan' come nigh me, niggah,' he say, 'er I hit wid dis fiddle.' 'Whut I care fo' yo' ole fiddle?" I say, an' I staht fo dat nigger an' he hit me a blip in de naik wid his little ele fiddle an' I doan' know nuffin fo' sebn houghs.' "What?" shouted Ephraim. "Yo' doan' mean to tell me dat hittin' yo' wid nuffin but a fiddle lay you out like dat?"

"Man," said Rastus, "dat nigger was fixed. He had dat ole fiddle filled wif sand." Human Nature.

Johnson owned a dog. Thompson lived next door to Johnson. The dog howled all night, seven nights in a week, Said Thompson to Johnson, "See here, we have always been good friends, though neighbors. And I thought I would tell you that the howling of that dog of yours is driving me and my family wild for want of sleep. My wife has lost nearly five pounds in

"That's queer," said Johnson. "I haven't noticed him making any noise."

One evening Thompson came into the house leading the obnoxious dog on a string. "Now," said he, to the astonished Mrs. Thompson, "we will soon settle the dog nuisance. I didn't like to kill the dog while he belonged to Johnson, so I bought the beast. There is nothing unneighborly in killing our own dog. I'll get some chloroform to-merrow."

Said Johnson to Thompson, "Well, you haven't chloroformed the dog yet." "No," said Thompson, "the truth is we have become rather fond of the little fellow. He is so lively and playful." "But doesn't his barking at night annoy

you?" "Haven't noticed it at all." "Hm!" said Johnson, "The darn brute keeps me awake all the time with his yelp-

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS. English publishers intend to launch

book by Mary La Penderedo, called "A Pastoral Played Out," which they hope will rival "The Heavenly Twins" in popu-About the only subject of which Mr. Gladstone has no real knowledge is that

of horse flesh. He never evinced much interest in any horse except the wooden one Mrs. Langtry has the finest head of hair of any lady on the stage. She once used

a dye, but it disgusted her, and she has never since attempted to improve on nature's handiwork in this direction. It is said that Queen Victoria has a strong personal fondness for Mme. Patti. She remarked recently that among the happiest moments of her life she reck-oned those in which she was listening to Patti's voice.

Mrs. Julia A. Carney wrote the jingle beginning "Little drops of water, little grains of sand" when a teacher in a Boston primary school, and while penning a article for her little ones on the

value of moments. Allen G. Thurman, the "Old Roman," is living in retirement in Columbus, O., at the age of eighty-two. Since the death of his wife he has kept to his library. He reads all night and sleeps all day. He prefers high-class fiction and Greek dra mas in the original to political literature. Rossinl was one of the most indolent men that ever lived, yet he wrote operas against time, as it were. "The Barber of Seville," for instance, was written and mounted in less than a month, which fact gave rise to Donizetti's cogent witticism. Upon being told that Rossini had finished his opera in thirteen days, Donizetti re-plied: "It is very possible; he is so lazy." It is learned that Robert Louis Stevenson has bequeathed one-half his entire estate to a twelve-year-old lad of California, who had been for some time the novelist's constant companion. Although Stevenson had sent the boy away from him to be educated, he recalled him a few months before his death, and the lad was constantly at the novelist's bedside during his illness, and was present at his death.

Li Hung Chang has been able to take a scientific interest in his bullet wound. The old Chinaman is a man of vast learnips, and knows a little about almost every topic that can be mentioned, besides having a natural bent for scientific investigation. He has made, at one time and another, quite a close study of anatomy and surgery, and is able to keep up with every move made by the surgeons in charge of his case.

There are few men who are fitted by temperament to hold high office. Casimir-Perier was unhappy from the moment that he became President of France. Lord Rosebery has fretted himself sick since he assumed the English premiership. Felix Faure and William E. Gladstone are men of a different type. They both possess a certain phlegmatic indifference to criticism and a firm belief in their own wisdom that is of incalculable value in high official po-

Far Western people will not send Their kids to Sunday school, Because remarks there so offend About the Golden Rule.

-New York Recorder.

Reminiscence of Isaac P. Gray, Kate Field's Paper. "I want no law between me and the

gro. I am not afraid to enter the intellectual race of life with him. If he outstrips me it is all right. If the God of the universe has seen fit to endow him with a better brain than he has me, that s not his fault; or, if he has been more tudious in the cultivation of the intellect God has given him, and has there'y made himself a more intelligent man than I am, to my disgrace." Who do you suppose said that? It sounds like an old-fashioned black men in this country who want a law be tween them and the negro, who are afraid of this thing of amalgamation, who, if they have not a law between them and the negro, fear the first colored woman whom they meet in the road will rush into their arms and amalgamate them right off. But arms and amalgamate them right off. But I do not think that my Copperhead friends need a law of this kind so bad as they think they do, for I do not believe that there is a respectable colored woman in the State who would think of marrying a Copperhead." That has the old Abolttionist ring to it, has it not? Well, the place where those words were spoken was Richmond, Ind.; the occasion was a public meeting in Starr's Hall, and the date was the 12th of March, 1866. The speaker was Isaac Pusey Gray, who six years later left the Republican party on the issue of its reconstruction policy in the South, and afterward served twice as Democratic Governor of Indiana. It seems odd now to go back over that early part of his career go back over that early part of his career when he trained with Morton and assailed Vallandigham from every stump.

The Briton's Luggage

Boston Transcript. When you see on a baggage truck at the Union Station a hat box, one large trunk, two small ditto and two bags, all made of leather and of a peculiar clumsy stoutness, and the pile surmounted by a tin tub, you can bet high that the English collection is on its way to the Canadian Pa-

CHINA'S QUEER ARMY | fore, that he be allowed to remain where

'AMAZING FRAUDS AND LIES MET WITH ON ALL SIDES.

Stupendous Lying-Mukden Relying for Defense Upon Lamps and Clubs -To Discard Modern Weapons.

New York Sun. Recent letters from the far East give letails of war measures contemplated or adopted by the Chinese government that are simply grotesque. Theoretically the Chinese army is 4,000,000 strong. On paper, that is in the Blue Book, it numbers 650,000. For this number pay is drawn from the imperial treasury. At the beginning of the war there were 200,000 men under arms in the entire empire. Of these not more than 30,000 were sent to the front when hostilities began last July. The reinforcements have been conscripts-chiefly ignorant farm hands and pauper coolles. These were torn from their wretched homes and sent forward in droves like cattle. The best among them escaped or deserted; the weakest died by the wayside. Less than half of those conscripted have reached Peking, Tien-Tsin, and the scene of war. This half numbers about 150,-000 men undrilled, undisciplined, and practically unarmed. As against the Japanese they stand the same chance as three small

man with a revolver. The officers are on a par with the rank and file. Their military education consists in lifting weights, in practicing with the bow, in reading the classics, and in raising money with which to secure an appointment after graduation. In their text-book on tactics there are such injunctions as Play sweet music in order to soothe your enemy into a gentle and slumberous mood:" "In attacking make a great noise and flaunt every banner, in order to create consterna-tion in the foe;" "March your men in single file, so as to increase their apparent num-ber and thus derivatives." file, so as to increase their apparent number and thus decieve the enemy. All this is ridiculous enough, but it is not a circumstance to what is now going on in the war. The Chinese met with an overwhelming defeat at Kaiping on Dec. 20, yet this is the way in which it is described by the Shenpao, a prominent Chinese newspaper:

"A Chee-Foo scholar writes us that an important battle has just occurred at Kaiping. An overwhelming army of Japanese ping. An overwhelming army of Japanese made a cowardly attack upon the fearless General Sung-Ching, thinking to take him unawares. But that great soidler is always vigilant, and routed his foes with great slaughter killing over three thousand and vigilant, and routed his foes with great slaughter, killing over three thousand and driving the rest back thirty-five miles without losing over ten men himself. Evening coming on, and every one being tired from the hard labor of the day, General Sung thoughtfully ordered all his men to lie down and rest, while he slept likewise. He had not been it bed more than an hour or two when he was disturbed by the Japanese, who, contrary to all usages of war, again assailed his camp. He was naturally indignant, and ordered a lieutenant to drive the wretches away so that he could finish the wretches away so that he could linish his slumbers. The officer did the best he could, but, being wounded, and his troops being panic-stricker by the cold, he and his men turned and retreated, being pursued by the Japanese. This turned the this and ordered a retreat at full speed His forces quickly outmarched the enemy so that at morning the whereabouts of th Japanese were urknown, from which it inferred that they have fled. While

the banners, flags and umbrellas were all safely brought away. General Sung, in view of the urgency of the situation, has applied to Peking for 50,000 reinforcements." MUKDEN'S DEFENSES. General Chang, who is the commander of the ancient Manchurian capital Mukden, re-December, that he had vastly strengthened the fortifications of that city by equipping them with one thousand lamps, which were lighted every evening at dusk and kept burning all night, the illumination being so brilliant as to inspire amazement and terror in the souls of all spectators. The Board of War, by return dispatch, complimented him on his activity and military skill. In January he reported that, hearing that th Japanese forces were advancing, he had in-creased still further the strength of the city walls by adding three thousand lamp making four thousand in all, and raising city guard of five thousand men with bar ners and clubs.

tents, guns and munitions were left beh

ners and clubs.

General E-Ko-Tang-A, a Tartar general in command near Mukden, reported to the Board of War that, between Nov. 23, 1894, and Jan. 3, 1895, he had in open battle, in ambush, or by stealth, succeeded in killing two thousand Japanese and wounding as many more. He denounced the enemy for their utter ignorance of warfare, and, as an example, said: sent one thousand braves with flags and banrers to strike terror into them, followed by three thousand troops. Instead of writing in a dignified manner they opened fire from every direction upon my shed I was obliged to retire my army twelve miles to secure a strong position."

General Wei-Ch'ang was so astonished at the reverses of his fellow-countrymen that he consulted a score of eminent astroiogers, fortune tellers, and geomancers, and then gave the matter his deepest consideration. He thereafter memoralized his superiors, stating that "the new fangled rifles of the foreign devils were worthless and brought

foreign devils were worthless and brought bad luck to the Chinese arms; the heroic victories of China were won with muskets, jingals, banners, bows and spears, which should be adopted again by the imperial forces, whereupon they would drive the Japanese pigmies into the sea." He thought "the foreign devils who were teaching military science and tactics should be sent out of the country, as their presence was distasteful to the gods, and their scholars should be taken away and trained in the martial exercises of their valorous ancestors.'

amined an arsenal at Tien-Tsin he found that of a hundred barrels which had been sed and paid for at the highest rates purchased and paid for at the nighest rates as containing fine gunpowder ninety were filled with rubbish, five with sand, and only five with powder. He demanded an explanation from the general in charge, who replied that "while the rats and mice had doubtless effected some of the substitution complained of, yet he was convinced that the charge had been worked by the magic charge of some legance astrologies. the change had been worked by the magic charms of some Japanese astrologers of great skill and power; besides this, there were some expert thieves in his command who were so adept in their calling that they could steal anything they determined upon without any one being able to prevent them, no matter what might be the precautions taken." precautions taken."

. A LACK OF CONSISTENCY. When it comes to two men, one a Western devil and the other a Chinese official. describing the same set of facts, the difference between the two accounts is simply amazing. A good example is afforded by two letters written Dec. 23, 1894, at Kalgam the one by an English missionary and the other by a mandarin, and both received by the same mail in Peking. The mandarin says:

"The great event of the month was the trrival yesterday of 20,000 troops from North Kansu under General Tung-Fusiang. They are Mohammedans, and are arrival Siang. armed like foreign-devil soldiers. They have strong, big horses, which may too large for our roads. They are eager to attack the Japanese, whom they swear they will exterminate. As soon as they have been rested a day or two they will march to the seat of war. They report that they are followed by a second army of 10,000. They strike awe by their great fe-

rocity."

This is what the missionary saw:

"Yesterday the monotony of our daily life was broken by the arrival of 1.000 Nomad cavalry from North Kansu under the command of Tung-Su-Kiang. They are Moslems with dark skins and Tartar features. Every man is a comical walking arsenal, being armed with a spear, sword, dagger, horse pistol and in some instances a shield, bow and arrows and ancient long gun. Their horses are big, bony animals, well fitted for the grassy plains, but altogun. Their horses are big, bony animals, well fitted for the grassy plains, but altogether unsuited for these rocky roads. The poor wretches looked weary, exhausted and homesick, and will remain here a week or two to recover from their long journey before they proceed to Peking. They report that anywhere from 500 to 800 stragglers are following them and will be here in a fortnight. Their arrival is regretted, because most of these Nomads are incorrigible thieves and are as ready to kill and loot their friends as their enemies."

There is a delicate humor in the following paragraph from the King-Pao (Capital News) if you remember that Mo-Tien is two fundred and Shan-Hai-Kwan seventy-five miles from the front of war:

"General Nich has safely held Mo-Tien for over two months, and, having won the imperial confidence, has been ordered to Shan-Hai-Kwan. He thinks, however, that Mo-Tien is of greater importance, and he.

"Brigadier General Cim-Huai-Sheing has been degraded in rank two steps to Colonel, one for having lied to the government in saying he was sick, when really he was afraid, and, second, for asking to resign because of fatigue, when it really was cowardice. The board of punishment have warned him that any further action on his part will be met with decapitation."

part will be met with decapitation."

The moral military standard of actions is incomprehensible to a Western mind. Gen. Wei was beheaded for being defeated, while Gen. Ch'ung was only degraded for running away when the Japanese army came in sight. Gen. Shung was reprimanded for stealing his soldiers' pay, while Jastai Sheng was merely fined for defrauding the government by charging \$3,000,000 for worthless rifles and muskets which had cost him \$500,000. Admiral Ting, the only Chinese commander who displayed herolsm, committed suicide rather than go to Peking and be decapitated for having been defeated in open battle. General Liu, who sold five hundred barrels of rubbish to the government as fine gunpowder, was thanked and promoted.

THE NEW SIBERIAN RAILROAD.

Great Work Which Is Being Constructed in a Substantial Manner. Mrs. Bishop, in St. James's Gazette.

After returning to Vladivostok, I made the trip, as far as it is at present open, by the Ussuri railway (the eastern section of the transsiberian line) to this hamlet on the Ussuri river. Few things in Siberia have surprised me so much as this railroad and the country through which it
passes. The eastern terminus is close to
the sea, and the government deep-water
pier below the town. The station is large
and very handsome, of dark gray granite,
with the architraves of the windows and
doors in red brick. Buffets and all else
are in efficient working order. The administrative offices are also of stone and very boys with tin swords would against a policeistrative offices are also of stone, and very spacious and handsome. At present only third and fourth-class cars are running, the latter chiefly patronized by Chinamen and Coreans. Each third-class saloon is divided into three compartments, with a corridor, and has a lavatory and steam-heating apparatus. The backs of the seats are raised to form upper berths for sleeping, and as the cars are nine feet high, they admit of broad luggage shelves above

The engines which run the traffic at pres ent are old American locomotives. Those which will shortly be introduced, along with all the rolling stock, are manufactured in the Baltic provinces. So also are the rails, the iron bridges, the water tanks, all the iron-works required for stations, and all Large railway work shops, with su stantial houses for artisans, have been erected at the prosperous town of Nikolskoye, sixty miles from Vladivostok, for the repairs of rolling stock on this Ussuri section. and are always in full activity. There is nothing about this line of the newness and provisional aspects which distinguish American lines, not even excepting some parts of the Canada Pacific railroad. The track is already ballasted as far as Ussuri, about 186 miles; steel bridges span the minor streams; substantial stations. either of stone or decorated wood, with well-kept buffets, at fixed distances, successfully compete as to stability and appearance with those on our branch lines. The tank houses are of hewn stone. The houses for the employes, besides being decorative, are most substantial, being built of logs and cement, painted with five coats of paint. Culverts and retaining walls are of solid masonry; telegraph wires accom-pany the road, which is worked strictly on

the block system. The crossings are well laid and protected. The aspect of solidity and permanence is remarkable. Even the temporary bridge here over the Ussuri, 1,050 feet in length-a trestle bridge of heavy timber to resis the impact of the ice—is so solid and mas sive as to make the great steel bridge, the granite piers for which are already built granite piers for which are already built, appear a work of supererogation. Up to this point there are no severe cuttings or embankments and the gradients are easy. The cost of construction is 50,000 roubles (a ruble now equals a dollar) per verst (3,500 feet.) This includes rolling stock, stations, etc., and all the bridges, except those over the Amur Venezal etc. The Amur bridge the Amur, Yenesei, etc. The Amur bridge is to cost 3,000,000 rubles. Convict labor has been abandoned, and Chinese act the part of navvies, earning about 80 cents a day. The work is to go on throughout the win ter, and at this moment about two hundre men are working here in a severe snow

The line as far as Nikolskoye, 102 versts was opened thirteen months ago, and earned within a year 280,000 roubles. The last earned within a year 20,000 roubles. The last 103 versts have only been open eight weeks, and speed is "strictly limited," averaging nine miles an hour. Engines and wagons are now running fifty versts further than Ussuri, and this distance will be ready for traffic in March. At present, 327 versts are

"If I Didn't Forget How Old I Was." If I didn't forget how old I was, Do you think I'd act like I often does? Do you think I'd swing on the front yard If I could remember that I was eight?

If I didn't forget how soon I'd grow
To be a big man like Uncle Joe,
Do you think my pa would have to scold
'Cuz I didn't do what I was told? Do you think I'd set my ma so wild, An' act so much like a little child, If I didn't forget I was half-past eight? An' would Miss Brown have to keep me

Miss Brown said I was "a little fiend," An' I didn't know what the old thing meaned But she said 'twas becuz I played so rough An' it made my ma just cry-sure 'nough. If I didn't forget, do you s'pose that I

Would ever act so's to make her cry?
And don't you s'pose I'd behave just fine,
If I didn't forget I was going on nine? If I could remember, do you suppose I wouldn't take care of my Sunday clo'es? An' would I get mad at my cousin Ben

Without getting right away good again? Pa says he believes I was just born bad An' Uncle Joe says that I'm "like my dad," An' Aunt Lou says she don't suppose I'll ever be better, but ma—she knows, I'll ever be better, but ma—she knows, An' she hugs me clost with a kiss, becuz

She says "I forgot how old I was." -Youth's Companion. No Cheap Notoriety for Morton. Brooklyn Eagle.

The proposition to appropriate the sum of \$33,000 for the erection of stables for the use of the Governor of the State, has been abandoned owing to the objections of Mr. Morton himself. There is no question that the stables are needed and the appropriation suggested would be just under the constitution, but the Governor does not desire the cheap notoriety that does not desire the cheap notoriety that would attend his veto of an appropriation would attend his veto of an appropriation by which he was to be personally bene-fited. He is quite willing that the stables shall be built at State expense for his suc-cessors, but personally he is not willing to avail himself of their use. This is not a large matter at best but shows that Mr. Morton's sense of self respect is propor-tionate to the position he occupies and lifts him out of the category of the pan statesmen who like to use veto power for pur-poses of self acclaim. The stables ought to be built and Governor Morton should ave the use of them in spite of his obections, though that is out of the ques

tion as matters stand. Wby They Didn't Take Washington Kate Field's paper. Strolling along the Virginia roads lead-ng into Washington, I am often tempted

wonder why the Confederate troops did not capture the city when they had the chance early in the civil war. Somebody asked General Beauregard why the Southern army did not occupy the capital at once after the first Bull Run, and he answered very seriously: "Well, I will tell you; the very seriously: "Well. I will tell you; the Washington papers received in camp informed us the city was overerowded." Which was as fell-citous as Parepa-Rosa's response when asked how it was she came to marry Carl Rosa: "Oh, because he asked me to." Gen. Joseph E. Johnston gave a different answer from General Peauregard's. "There were two reasons why we did not take Washington," said he, "myself and the Potomac river. I had reached that age that I knew an American soldier could not ford a river a mile wide soldier could not ford a river a mile wid and eighteen feet deep."

Not as Bright as Her Diamonds.

Washington Post. If I had not heard it myself I should not If I had not heard it myself I should not have believed it, but it really did happen, and at the National on Tuesday night. She sat—by some singular coincidence—in row J, midway of the row. She was not young, and her early education may not have been carefully looked after, but her bonnet was the very latest thing in bonbonnet was the very latest thing in bonnets, her diamond earrings were large and sparkling, and her gown was built by a fash'onable mouste. She was carelessly reading the music programme of the first act. Paull's "Ben-Hur" was playing.

"Ah," she said, elegantly, "Ben-Hur," the song Trilby sang, you know."

Mean Instruction.

ANTIQUITY OF LENT

ITS OBSERVANCE ONE OF THE OLD-EST CHRISTIAN CUSTOMS.

Death Once the Penalty for Disregard of the Senson of Fasting-Why

Fixed at Forty Days.

New York Times The observance of Lent is one of the oldest customs among Christian nations. It is, in fact, a custom of such antiquity that its beginning is involved in obscurity. By some it is contended that Lent is of apostolic origin, while others hold it is an ec-

clesiastical institution. But whether or not Lent as a fixed season of fasting was observed by the Apostles or was not established until the organization of Catholicism, all authorities agree in saying that for a time, at least, after the death of Christ, the primitive Christians observed a fast of forty hours prior to the anniversary of the resurrection; and it is the general concensus of modern opinion that this fast of forty days was practically the ancient type of the

modern laws. In St. Luke v., 35, Christ said: "But the days will come when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them and then shall they fast in those days."

This was taken by the primitive Christians to mean that they should fast after Christ's death and until his reappearance. The custom, therefore, obtained among them of fasting forty hours-from the afternoon of Good Friday to the morning

of resurrection day. Even if Lent was not a long season of fasting among the primitive Christians, it became so before long, and there are ecclesiastical records to show that prior to the fourth century the Lenten season was generally fixed at forty days of fasting and prayer. The custom has lasted, then, for at least 1,500 years, practically as it is to-day.

to-day.

The Roman ecclesiastical name for Len The Roman ecclesiastical name for Lent is Jejunium Quadragesimale, "the fast of forty days." The English word Lent is from the Anglo-Saxon word Lencten, meaning spring, with reference to the season in which it occurs. In the old Greek church, before the fourth century, Lent began with what is now the first Sunday in Lent and ended on Holy Thursday. Neither Greeks nor Latins fasted on Sundays and Thursdays during Lent, and the Greeks, in addition, did not fast on Saturdays in Lent. Socrates has left testimony to the effect that in his day, in Rome, Christians fasted three weeks before Easter, and did not include Saturdays or Sundays in their count. In Greece, in Assyria, and at Alexandria, the Christians fasted six weeks, and in some other places, notably at Constantinople, the Christians fasted seven weeks before Easter. The latter, though, fasted only in alternate weeks during this period, and excepted Saturdays and Sundays.

OTHER CUSTOMS.

OTHER CUSTOMS. According to another ancient Roman writer of note, the Christians of Rome in his day fasted seven weeks, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, and also Holy Saturday from the count. Under this plan Lent tually covered thirty-six days-a tithe of the year, being one-tenth of the annual

number of days. Lent was never, however, closely identifled as a symbol with the idea of a tithe of fied as a symbol with the idea of a tithe of the year and there is little authority for saying that this idea ever existed among Christians to any extent. Gregory the Great, during the latter part of the sixth century, fixed Lent at thirty-six days in one of his homiletics. It is definitely known that during a part of the fourth century the Christians at Rome fasted for fifty days, beginning with Quinquagesima week, and, under Pope Melchiades, for exty days, beginning on Sexagesima Sunday. Some of the Greek Christians fasted seventy days before Resurrection day, beginning or Septuagesima Sunday.

Sunday.

The proof that Lent was not closely associated with the idea of a tithe of the year is found in the circumstance that either the very Pope who first fixed the fast at thirty-six days, or his immediate successor, extended the fast to forty days, by adding four days from Quadragesima week.

cessor, extended the fast to forty days, by adding four days from Quadragesima week. The manner of observing Lent during the first seven centuries of the Christian era was not less varied than the measure of the duration of the period of fast.

It is true that the church enacted very strict laws for the observance of Lent, and Charlemagne, when he conquered Saxony, went to the length of ordering that a Saxon should be liable to death if he wantonly disregarded the prescribed observances of the holy season; these rigid laws were, however, followed up by the allowance of dispensations. The Butter Towers, at Rouen, are said to have been built from the lenten dispensations. During the earlier centuries there was no uniformity of observance of Lent, save that in a general way, the season was marke

in a general way, the season was marked by abstention from meat, although the total abstention was generally confined to comparatively few days during the period. Some Christians abstained from all meat, some only from fowl; some ate only bread, some ate nothing and some fasted during the entire day, while others fasted during only a part of the day. Originally, too—that is, during these early centuries—the Christians partook of holy communion, bread and wine, only on Easter, which was, likewise, the only day on which catechumens were baptized and penitents absolved. Catechumens were neophytes.

DURATION OF THE FAST.

DURATION OF THE FAST. It has always been the general opinion that the early and, finally, the prevailing idea of fixing the Lenten fast at forty days grew out of the forty-day periods in the Bible. Jonah, in his denunciation, gave Nineveh forty days of grace. Moses and Elijah were forty days in the wilderness. Christ fasted and underwent temptation for forty days. So it was natural that a great commemorative and penitential observance like Lent should by general and gradual consent and custom fix itself upon a period

consent and custom fix itself upon a period of forty days.

Successive edicts of the Church molded Lent into its present form about one thousand years ago, and since then it has remained practically unaltered.

The Roman Catholics and the Episcopalians alone observe the Lenten season. It is the present custom in the Protestant Episcopal Church to fast on two days in the week during Lent—Wednesday and Friday.

In the Roman Catholic Church there is a general rule of observance applying to all Catholics everywhere, and there are special exceptions, jurisdictional with the dioceses of the bishops. lioceses of the bishops.
All week days in Lenten are fast days of precept, and only one ideal is allowed, with the attendance of a modest collation in the evening. The aged, the infirm, child-bearing and nursing women, youths of both sexes, and persons, engaged in exhaustive labor are exempted from the fast. In this archdiocese a number of dispensations have been appropried. tions have been announced. Fresh meat may be eaten on Sundays at all meals, and at the principal meal on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. One piece of bread, with a cup of tea, coffee, or chocolate, may be eaten in the morning. Lard and drippings may be used in the presentation. and drippings may be used in the preparation of food. The order of meals may be reversed where it is not conveient to have the principal meal in the middle of the day. But fish and fiesh are never allowed day. But fish and firsh are hever and during Lent at the same meal.

In the Roman Catholic and in many of the Protestant Episcopal churches there are daily religious services during Lent.

There is no formal or official observances of Lent in the Protestant churches, save in the general direction of charity. Protesin the general direction of charity. Protes-tants in large numbers voluntarily ob-serve Lent with prayer, penitonce and fast-ing. No strict obligations are imposed on

communicants that do not hold during all easons of the year. In general terms in America as in Eng-land the fashionable world abstains from many outward indulgences in pleasure durmany outward indulgences in pleasure during Lent. Many persons stay away from theaters and other places of amusement. The manner of fixing the Lenten period is as follows, using the present Lenten period as an example: Lent began this year on Feb. 27—Ash Wednesday—and ends on Saturday. April 13. This is a period of forty-cix days. Sundays are not included in the estimate. There are six Sundays in the present Lenten period—March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, and April 7. Subtracting these six Sundays from the forty-six days leaves the exact period of forty days.

Within comparatively few years the custom of celebrating Easter Sunday with claborate services of song in the churches has been greatly amplified in the Roman Catholic and Protestant Episcopal demoninations, and has spread to all, or nearly all, the Protestant denomiations, particularly in the cities.

Harrowing.